

ABSTRACT

A method of determining a codec mode for encoding a frame in a communications system, the method comprising the steps of: receiving a sequence of signal samples arranged in frames; analysing a current frame to select a codec mode appropriate for the current frame; predicting the characteristics of a subsequent frame using lookahead samples from the subsequent frame; and determining a codec mode for the current frame and the subsequent frame which suits the current frame and also suits a subsequent frame based on the predicted characteristics.